

Emergency Message To U.S. Citizens
U.S. Embassy, Manila
October 12, 2011

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES IS TRANSMITTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS A PUBLIC SERVICE TO U.S. CITIZENS IN THE PHILIPPINES. PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL U.S. CITIZENS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD. THANK YOU.

Tropical Depression Twentythree (Ramon)

This message is being issued to alert U.S. citizens residing or traveling in the Philippines that the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) issued alerts for a tropical depression, with the international code “Twentythree” and the Philippine name of Ramon, at 10:00 a.m. today, October 12, 2011. This tropical depression is currently located 30 km northeast of Roxas City, Province of Capiz (11.8°N, 122.9°E), with maximum sustained winds of 55 kph near the center.

PAGASA reports the tropical depression made its landfall in the Province of Southern Leyte at 6:00 a.m. today, October 12, 2011. It has maintained its strength as it moves toward Southern Mindoro and Calamian group of islands. It is forecast to move west northwest at 19 kilometers per hour. The Eastern Visayas and Northern Mindanao will have rains with gusty winds and the coastal waters will be moderate to rough. The Bicol region, the rest of the Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming cloudy over the Central Visayas which may trigger flashfloods and landslides. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms. For further details, see the PAGASA Tropical Depression Warning <http://www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph>.

Please monitor the tropical depression’s track by listening to the radio, watching television, or monitoring <http://metocph.nmci.navy.mil>, www.typhoon2000.ph, or www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph. In the event the typhoon affects where you live, locate shelter, monitor media reports, and follow all official instructions. Carry your travel documents at all times (i.e. U.S. passport, birth certificate, picture ID’s, etc.) or secure them in a safe, waterproof location. You should also contact friends and family in the United States with updates about your whereabouts. Additional information on emergency situations in the Philippines is available at www.redcross.org.ph or www.ndcc.gov.ph.

Additional information on storm preparedness may be found on the “Hurricane and Typhoon Season” page of the Bureau of Consular Affairs website. Updated information on travel in the Philippines may be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States and Canada, or from overseas, 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

It is possible that weather conditions may require that the Embassy temporarily close. In the event of a weather-related closure, the Embassy will issue a message. Please continue to monitor the Embassy’s website <http://manila.usembassy.gov/> for updated information.

For any emergencies involving U.S. citizens, please contact the American Citizens Services Unit of the U.S. Embassy's Consular Section, located at 1201 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila; telephone (02) 301-2000 extensions 2246 or 2567; after hours emergency telephone (02) 301-2000; fax (02) 301-2017; e-mail acsinfomanila@state.gov; web page <http://manila.usembassy.gov>. If the Embassy public phone number, 301-2000, is not operational, U.S. citizens who require emergency assistance may contact the American Citizens Services Unit through <http://www.facebook.com/manila.usembassy> or through acsinfomanila@state.gov or by calling the United States at the following numbers: 202-501-4444 (if calling from outside the United States or Canada) or 1-888-407-4747 (if calling from within the United States or Canada).

For information on visas or to schedule an appointment, please call (02) 982-5555 or (02) 902-8930 within the Philippines and other countries aside from mainland United States, or (214) 571-1600 for calls from mainland United States. You can also get information and book an appointment online at <http://www.ustraveldocs.com/ph>.

For information regarding the Department of Veterans Affairs please call (02) 318-8387 or 1-800-1888-8782 for the VA Clinic and (02)550-3888 or 1-800-1888-5252 for Benefits information. In the event of a temporary closure of the U.S. Embassy, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will attempt to call all those with an existing appointment to reschedule.

U.S. Embassy
Manila, Philippines